

PCEF

Community Coalition & Innovation Funding

Solicitation Framework - ***Adopted***

What	PCEF Committee will recommend approximately \$158m in funding allocations in addition to any surplus forecasted revenues in the Spring 2024 revenue update.
Why	To advance PCEF mission and support collaboration, through high-impact, multi-stakeholder projects
Who	Open to coalitions made up of all organization types, with a priority for public-private partnerships.
When	Letters of Interest due Spring 2024 Full applications due Summer 2024 Funding recommendation in Fall 2024
How Much	Funding allocations in the amount of \$20m - \$100m
How	Letter of Interest then Full Application, if invited

Qualification

- Projects that create climate action solutions that center PCEF priority populations and will be completed by 2029.

Eligibility

Community-centered coalitions that preferably include at least one public partner (i.e., local government, public school district, transit agency, redevelopment agency, Federally recognized Tribes, and/or port authority) in addition to any of the following: non-profit community-based organizations, labor organizations, academia, businesses, and/or private utilities.

- Project must result in meaningful and measurable reduction or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, except in cases involving the development of a workforce or contractor pool focused on climate action.

Item A: Process and framework proposal for allocating additional PCEF funds

- Primary applicant must:
 1. Be a non-profit or government entity, and
 2. Have co-applicants or demonstrate support from a community coalition.
- At least one non-profit community-based organization with a minimum of eight years' experience in conducting community engagement in Portland focused on PCEF priority populations must be a member of the coalition.
- Prior to the disbursement of any allocated funds, project must have an executed community benefits plan, community benefits agreement, and/or community workforce agreement with input from co-applicants or community coalition partners. For background on community benefits plans, community benefits agreements, and/or community workforce agreements, please see the following US Department of Energy guide page: <https://www.energy.gov/infrastructure/about-community-benefits-plans>.

Project proposals (programmatic or physical improvements) must fall within one of the funding categories below and complement the priorities identified in the City's Climate Emergency Workplan and PCEF Climate Investment Plan. (An application could include multiple funding categories, with an emphasis of demonstrating synergy in benefits and impact):

- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Green Infrastructure
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Transportation Decarbonization
- Workforce and Contractor Development

Projects with physical improvements must be within the City of Portland.

Funding Amounts

\$20-\$100 million per application.

- Each primary applicant may apply only once as lead on a proposal.
- PCEF reserves the right to increase or reduce allocation amounts based on review, strength of proposals, and demonstration of need. In letters of interest, applicants must detail the funding amount requested, specifying both the minimum necessary for the viability of the project and the maximum capacity the project can effectively utilize.

Application

Two-step process: Letter of Interest and Full Application

1. **Letter of Interest:** Interested applicants will be asked to submit a letter of interest (LOI) that includes:
 - Primary applicant and co-applicant(s)
 - List of coalition members with contact information,
 - Summary of coalition governance such as a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between partners,
 - Summary of project or project(s),
 - Funding amount requested,
 - Total project cost and any leverage / match funding
 - Implementation team and experience,
 - Projected impact (GHG reductions/sequestration, co-benefits),
 - Expected benefits to and engagement with PCEF priority populations.

A review panel comprised of PCEF Committee members and City staff will review the LOIs, and depending on the volume of LOI submissions, may recommend that the PCEF Committee:

1. Select 4-8 LOIs for invitation for full application; or
 2. Extend period to allow for more LOI submissions.
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2. **Full Application:** Applicants and their coalitions will be invited to complete full applications. PCEF may provide additional resources to support the development of proposals. Proposals will be evaluated based on several criteria, including, but not limited to:
 - Diversity of coalition and strength of public-private collaboration.
 - Community engaged and informed solutions. Proposals should demonstrate solutions that are demonstrably community-informed, not merely checking the box of surveying community.
 - Viability of proposal
 - Projected benefits and beneficiaries

Committee Review and Evaluation

Committee will review applications and may request an interview for additional questions or clarifications.

Item A: Process and framework proposal for allocating additional PCEF funds

Committee Recommendation to Council

Committee will recommend applications to Council after deliberations.

Timeline Overview	
March 21, 2024	Recommend Process and Criteria
April 4	Release RFP
May 10	Deadline for LOI
May 31	Invite 4 - 8 full proposals
June 1 - June 30	Application Q&A/Support
July 16	Deadline for full proposals
July 23 - August 13	Application Review
September 2	Recommendation